

# Festival

The background of the cover is a photograph of a tulip field. In the foreground, numerous red tulips are in full bloom, their petals vibrant and slightly ruffled. Interspersed among the red ones are several yellow tulips. The flowers are set against a backdrop of a calm body of water, possibly a lake or a wide river, which reflects the light. In the far distance, a shoreline with some trees and buildings is visible under a soft, hazy sky. The overall color palette is dominated by the reds and yellows of the tulips, with the blues and greys of the water and sky providing a serene contrast.

A PICTORIAL HISTORY  
OF TULIP TIME IN PELLA

1935 - 1985

400





One of the favorite Tulip Time photographs was taken by John (Sage) Van Vliet in 1936. The child was J. Russell Hoogenakker, Jr. The scene was a perfect portrayal of Dutch enjoyment of tulips.

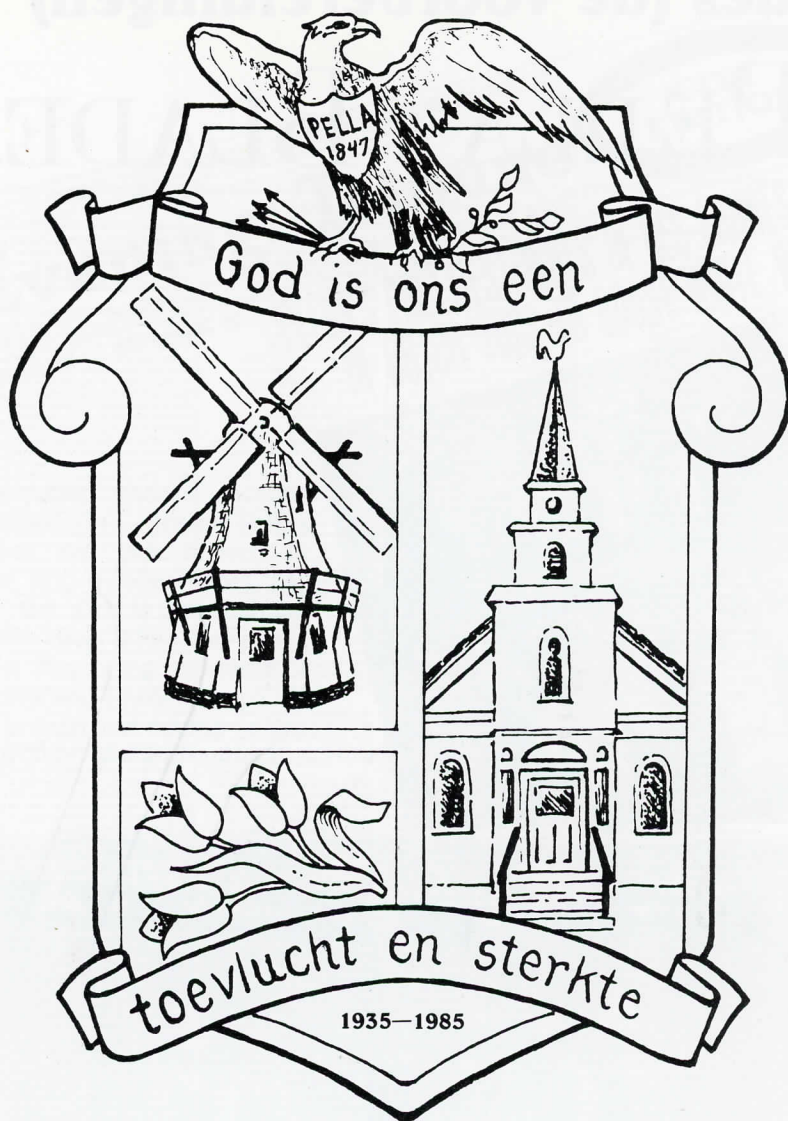
*Acknowledgments: Many people contributed in compiling this book. A valuable source was from scrapbooks kept by the late author/librarian, Sara Elizabeth Gosselink. Special thanks to Dr. Phillip Weber of Central College, Pella, Iowa, for use of his notes on early regional picnics; to Cora and Maurice Van Willigen and Mr. and Mrs. Robert De Jager; to librarians at Carnegie-Viersen Library; past Queens and all persons who loaned pictures and newspapers.*

*Old photographs are from the files of the Pella Historical Society reproduced from photos in the Pella Chronicle, Oskaloosa Herald, Iowa Daily Press, Des Moines Register & Tribune and others.*

*More recent photos are from those mentioned above, from De Wild Studio and Dale Van Donselaar, both of Pella.*

*Outer Cover: Dale Van Donselaar. Back inside: Al De Wild.*





FESTIVAL is dedicated to the memory of those early settlers who came to a new home in a new land in 1847 under the leadership of Dominie Hendrik Pieter Scholte. With them they brought a sense of reverence to God which continued through many generations and is perpetuated into the present. The festivals held in Pella since 1935 have commemorated the sacrifices made by those early Dutch ancestors whose heritage we treasure.

*Festival*

*Compiled by Muriel Kooi for the  
Pella Historical Society, 1985*







DES MOINES, IOWA, THURSDAY, JULY 17,

**Tribune**

ONE CENT—ON TRAINS  
FIVE CENTS

Monday Register

# Tribune

—TWELVE PAGES  
ONE CENT—OR THREE  
FIVE CENTS

## PELLA'S PRETTIEST GIRLS IN DES MOINES TODAY IN DUTCH TOGS TO BOOST WHITE WAY PICNIC

Twenty-five women and girls from the Pella, Ia. district, arrived here yesterday, Tuesday, Des Moines annual picnic headquarters for the fourth annual white way picnic. The girls were accompanied by the great queen of the picnic, Mrs. J. H. Pella, who arrived in the city yesterday to lead the parade. The girls, who are the prettiest in the district, will parade at 10 o'clock this morning. They will wear Dutch costumes, and the day in the costume will be the center of the picnic. A committee from the women's club brought the girls to the city for a short rest at the hotel.



They will parade at 10 o'clock this morning. They will wear Dutch costumes, and the day in the costume will be the center of the picnic. A committee from the women's club brought the girls to the city for a short rest at the hotel.

Another newspaper rescued recently from an attic, dated 1913, pictures Pella's beautiful women and girls dressed in Dutch costumes with wooden shoes. The front page of the *Des Moines Evening Tribune* tells of the Great White Way picnic (the Great White Way being the name of the highway traversing Iowa). The picnic was to be held in Pella and the trip to Des Moines by the women was a promotion.

[illegible]

**Just a Sample.**

**SWEET W  
FIRST S  
DAKO**

Des Mr  
Lea  
Fi

## Photo-Gravure Picture Section

# Des Moines Sunday Register

OCTOBER 1, 1992

Eight Pages of  
Art Illustrations

OLD SETTLERS felt that time had really been turned back when they saw among the quaint old houses pretty maids in costume and

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the United States is celebrated in September each year, and their de-

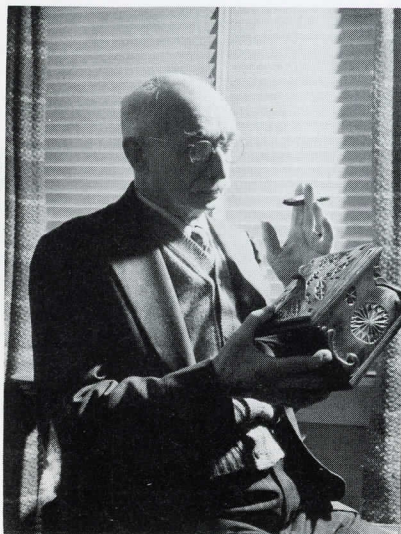
The October 1, 1922 *Des Moines Sunday Register Photo-Gravure* featured a full page of Pella's celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the town's founding. Dutch costumes were in evidence and a wooden shoemaker float was in a parade.



Picnics, family and regional, provided the festive preliminaries to a Tulip Time that was inevitably developing in Pella. Other celebrations forecast future festivals.

A yellowed, brittle local newspaper, *The Pella Blade*, dated September 7, 1897 tells of a semi-centennial celebration featuring horse-drawn floats with a variety of themes, one being young ladies representing different provinces in the Netherlands. Cox's band provided music and electric lights put up in profusion lighted the park. Curios and antiques were displayed in store windows and thousands of people trekked to Pella.

Friesian picnics at Vermeer's pond east of town were highlights in the lives of the older generations and under the Friesian flag, flying with the American banner, youngsters tasted the heady mixture of a Dutch-American heritage. Songs of both nationalities were sung and Friesian ballgames were enjoyed. In 1934, *De Frieske Volksdie* was attended by well over a thousand American Frieslanders. With the singing of "America" and then "Heitelan," the Friesian national anthem, tears came to the eyes of the participants.



George Heeren



Herwijnse picnics drew large crowds in a grove on a hill south of town. Dutch recitations and picnic dinners were enjoyed and there were tug-of-war contests. Many attending wished they could dance the folk dances of the old country but the piety of the community ruled in the negative and it was not done. A big crowd of persons with Herwijnse background attended the picnics.

The spirit of preserving their Dutch heritage and sharing it with others was inherent. When the operetta, "Tulip Time in Pella" was given in 1935, the idea of a festival came to the minds of civic leaders who were ever alert to promoting the town. Plans were hastily made in April for holding a one-day festival three weeks later.

Although tulips had officially been brought to Pella in 1903, there were no tulip beds in the town's business district. To remedy this situation, a local cabinetmaker, George Heeren, in four days, made 125 four-foot wooden tulips which were placed in the flag display holes on the square. These wooden tulips, with potted plants, sufficed in 1935 but a resolution was made to have thousands of tulips for the next festival. John Res, a Dutch bulb grower came to Pella to advise local planters.

When the first festival was planned, it was almost certain that Tulip Time would be a continuing event. In May 1935, the theater marquee advertised a movie "Holland in Tulip Time" but local residents mentally inserted the word 'Pella' in that title.

Some pessimists said, "It will never last." They were the minority. The first event sealed the aesthetic impetus needed for a permanent Tulip Time in Pella.



One of the earliest floats featured simple crepe paper decoration with natural greens.



Mr. and Mrs. Arie Terpstra of Lynnville appeared at a Friesian picnic in a 1900 Sears auto.



Singing songs of the old country brought happiness to the Dutch people in Pella. The Roeffel-Visser quartet (above) and the Olivier twins (right) provided music at early Tulip Time festivals.



An early hand-drawn float featured women dressed to represent various Dutch provinces.



## In the beginning...

*In het begin...*

A group of enterprising business and professional men was instrumental in organizing the first Tulip Time, a one-day affair in May 1935. They were Lewis W. Hartley, William Van Sittert, Dr. George Lankelma, Dick DenAdel, George Sadler, John Heerema, P.H. Kuyper, Lon Wormhoudt, Tunis Kempkes, Arie Schilder, H.P. Van Gorp, B.F. VanderLinden, Robert Lautenbach and Dr. J.J. Sybenga.

Five of the men of this group, inspired in April by a school operetta, "Tulip Time in Pella," traveled to Holland, Michigan where there had been a Tulip Time since 1929. Promoters of the Holland festival, not anxious to have their celebration copied, suggested that Pella choose a different flower on which to base their anticipated event.

Anne Tysseling with two other teachers, Mae Plette and Annie Schoenbohm, and pianist Herbert Wormhoudt were responsible for production of the operetta which inspired the com-

munity in the wish to commemorate the sacrifices the founders of Pella had made eighty-eight years earlier. The people were ready to produce what was to become a total community commitment, Tulip Time.

As summer waned into fall, avenues of tulips were planted. The Wolters building, a rejuvenated Historical Museum, was being filled with Dutch memorabilia. The simplistic celebrations in West Market Park were the ideas which were to be greatly embellished upon and refined.

The 1936 Tulip Time was the pattern for the form that we know today with its first real parade, inspection of the city streets by the Burgemeester and the city council, the first organized street scrubbing, thousands of tulips and large crowds of people visiting Pella.

Pella was to become "Little Holland on the Prairie."

# Sing a Song of Pella

## Zing van Pella

In January of 1936, the *Chronicle* ran an announcement of a Tulip Time theme song contest . . . open to anyone who would write words and music. Songs had to have two verses and a chorus. Seven original songs were printed in the local newspaper and a ballot was printed to choose the best-liked song.

The first ballot was a tie between "Tulips Everywhere" by I. LeCocq and "The Tulip Song" by the Harmony Class at Central College. Another ballot was printed and "The Tulip Song" won.

All of the songs were printed in the souvenir program booklet. Residents were urged to memorize the first verse of Psalm 42 and the words and tune to "The Tulip Song" both of which would be used in the 1936 festival.

[illegible]



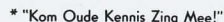
**Dedicated to Pella's Tulip Time**



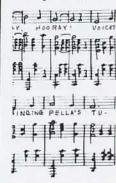
Dedicated to "Pelle's Tulip Time"



Dedicated to "Pella's Telling Time"



Dedicated to Pella's Tylin-Time



## TULIPS EVERYWHERE

Dedicated to Pella's Tulip Time



7



Our Mr. Walker on his recent visit to bakers in Holland, Miss. was much interested to find them making great preparations for the Tulip Festival, May 11th to 19th. There will be pageants, parades through eight miles of tulip lanes, ball games, the wearing of Dutch costumes and the serving of Dutch

foods. This is the seventh year in which this beautiful festival has been celebrated. The opening ceremony is the scrubbing of the streets, by men and women in Dutch costumes, who make the streets of Tulip Town clean and spotless in true Holland fashion. —Bap-in-Wax Gossip, St. Paul Minn.



Address by Dr. I. J. Lubbers, president of Central College. Between the acts of the operetta Wayne and Helen, the "Little Dutchmen," will offer a specialty act.

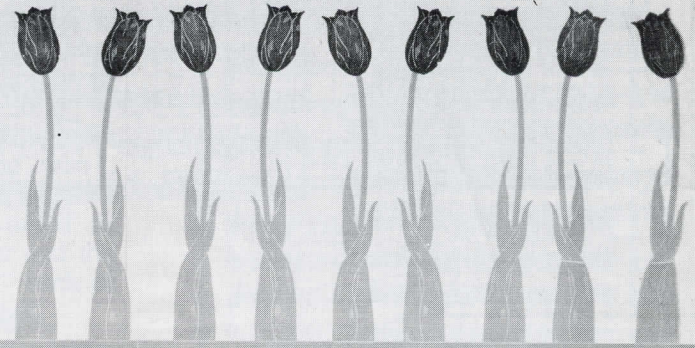
Tulip Time in Pella Thursday  
Friday and Saturday will have an  
admission charge. In the evening

merchandise offered at low prices.

**Everything Offered**

Local store offerings include every article that is needed in the home. Whether it is groceries, bakery goods, drugs, hardware, furniture, shoes, clothing, drugs, electrical appliances, paints and wall paper and other things, whether a new automobile is desired, or a refrigerator to cool and keep food fresh and sanitary, a place to sit, to dine on those days, or not, it is here at reasonable prices.

Merchants are using Chronicle advertising space this week to describe their excellent bargains. Read them for full details of articles on sale.





## In the beginning...



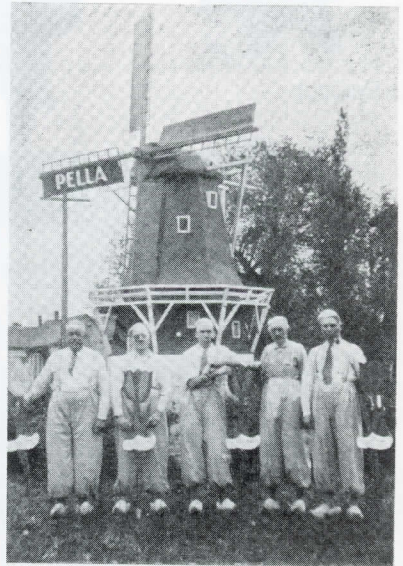
Anne Tysseling directed the operetta "Tulip Time in Pella" which brought the idea of a festival to local residents.



Seven members of a larger group who were leaders in the first Tulip Time Festivals were: (l to r) Lon Wormhoudt, William Van Sittert, Harve P. Van Gorp, Bernie Vander Linden, Robert Lautenbach, Dr. J.J. Sybenga and Tunis Kempkes.



Dr. George Lankelma was President of the Chamber of Commerce and helped organize the first festival.



Other leaders were: (l to r) Dr. T.G. Fultz, Arie Schilder, Anthony Tysseling, George Heeren and Hugo Kuyper who functioned as secretary.



# Town Crier

## Stadtsenroeper

Professor George Francis Sadler, a music teacher, was the chairman of the first Tulip Time and was the first Town Crier in 1935. He was to continue greeting thousands of visitors on the streets with welcomes and answers to questions. He posed for thousands of pictures with his clanging handbell and beautiful blue velvet costume, complete with the feathered hat. He died a few weeks before the 1953 Tulip Time. His place was filled by Tunis H. Klein who was mayor at the time. Clarence Buerkens played the role for ten years. Others have since filled the role.



George Francis Sadler



Ernie DeCook



Tunis Klein



Clarence Buerkens



Ron Rietvelt



T.G. Fultz

# Mayor

## Burgemeester

Dr. T. G. Fultz, local veterinarian, was appointed as the Burgemeester at the time of the first Tulip Time and acted in that role for thirty-five years. He was 84 when he retired after the 1971 festival. He was replaced by other men.





After the 1935 celebration, the Historical Society, an organization in limbo, suddenly realized the necessity of preserving artifacts of their Dutch heritage and needed a museum setting in which to display the heirlooms. The Society bought the building known as the Wolters Building on Washington Street which had been built in 1855 as an apothecary shop and residence.

The building was remodeled as a museum with the exterior painted white with delft blue trim. This was to be the home of the Historisch Museum until the Historical Society purchased the property on Franklin Street which is now the Historical Village.



An early (1939) Tulip Time entourage gave Governor Wilson the traditional gifts of bologna and wooden shoes.



# Planting Pretty Tulips

*Het planten van de mooie tulpen*



The planting machine of the mid-50s was called "Sputnik."

A more modern machine is now used which is a converted potato digger. A Vermeer ditcher geared to go backward was formerly used to pull the planter. Now the planter is pulled by a small tractor. The ground is prepared by a Troy garden tiller.



Richard Meyer and Ryn Vander Ploeg planted the early tulips in Pella's parks.



Kathleen Peters posed in Sunken Gardens in the 1950's.

New bulb beds are dug up each year and stored. These are then used for curb planting. For the last ten years, tulip bulbs have been purchased from Hillegom, the Netherlands (75,000 for the 1985 festival).



# The Dutch Love Their Queens!

## *Holland houdt van de Koningin*

The Dutch have long been enamored with a queen and Pella—in 1936 was no exception. The great-granddaughter of the town's founder was elected by popular vote to have the singular honor of being Pella's first Tulip Queen. Young ladies chosen as attendants for the five day festival being planned were also descendants of early settlers.

For many years, Dominie Scholte's daughter-in-law, Leonora Scholte, played the role of the Dowager Queen during Tulip Time. Others portrayed Queen Wilhelmina. This custom has not been observed for many years. Two Dutch queens, Julianna and Beatrix, have since ruled the Netherlands. Queen Juliana, then a princess, appeared on the first Tulip Tower in 1942. She was visiting the town, coming from Canada where she was living in exile during the occupation of the Netherlands. She was to become the queen six years later.

Pella's Tulip Queens and their attendants are often of Dutch heritage, but being Dutch is not a prerequisite for being chosen.

Young women who have been honored as queen and court have found great pride in

representing their community. They have discovered even deeper feelings of maintaining pride in Pella's unique Dutchness by either being born into it or adopting it by living here. Dutch decor in their homes and observing Dutch customs become natural to queens and their courts.

Past queens, with the present, form a bevy of beauty. They often return to participate in Tulip Time, joining each other at a festive luncheon and riding a float together.

In 1984, the first Tulip Time Queen, Leonora Hettinga, appeared in parades riding with the burgemeester in a horse-drawn carriage. Along the parade route, loyal subjects gave her standing ovations.

Fond memories are treasured, humorous mishaps enjoyed with laughter and friendly bonds established by present and past queens. Although they live throughout the United States, a small part of each queen's heart remains in her hometown. And, in May, whether they can return to Pella or not, those lovely ladies are here in spirit celebrating Tulip Time.

Portraying Dutch Queens are Mrs. Leonora Scholte as Dowager Queen, Mrs. Louise Bruce as Queen Wilhelmina and Leonora Gaass, Pella's first Tulip Queen.





---

---

# Coronation

## *de Koningin*

### Selection of Queens Through Five Decades

In March 1936, the first nomination coupon for Pella's Tulip Queen appeared in the *Chronicle*. Twelve girls were nominated by the public and a subsequent vote was taken to choose a queen and four attendants.

The popular majority vote was for Leonora Gaass. She was presented with a silver loving cup engraved with her name which was hers to keep during her reign. She was also presented with a gold pin.

By 1939 some changes had been made in voting procedures. A coupon for nomination remained and the candidates could be chosen from ages seventeen to twenty-five, with the home of the candidate being in the city limits.

The queen's selection was not known, in 1948, until a presentation program was held at the Legion Hall.

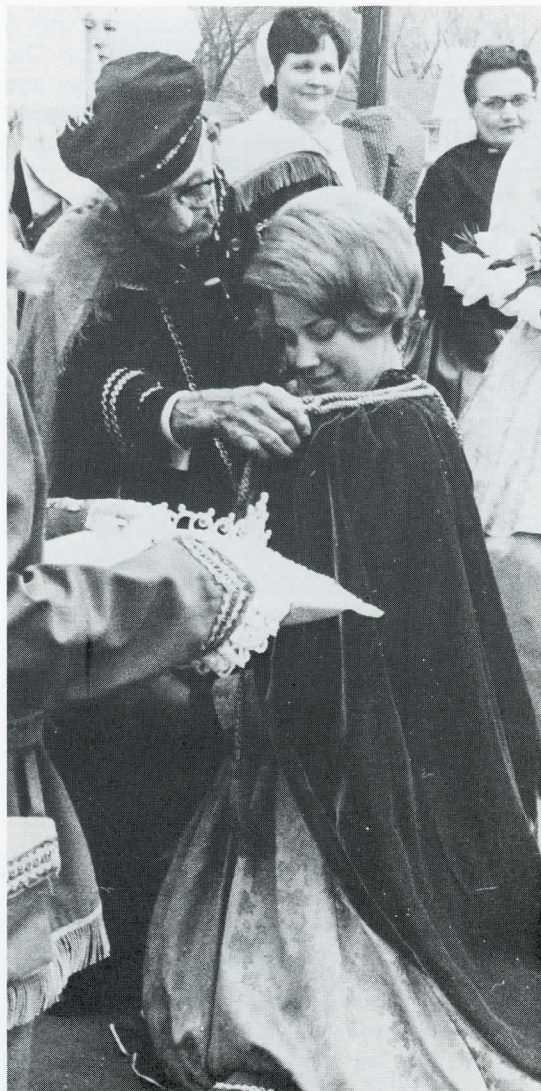
In 1951 and 1952, the queen and her attendants were nominated by the citizens' votes, but the queen was chosen by a panel of Des Moines judges which included Harlan Miller, Gordon Gammack and Herb Plambeck. The five highest candidates traveled to Des Moines for the judging. In 1953 and 1954 the judging was done by representatives from Chambers of Commerce in Newton, Knoxville and Oskaloosa. Out-of-town judges chose the queen for several years.

Local judges chose five finalists from a field of thirty in 1960 and the public then voted on the five to pick queen and attendants.

Twelve candidates were nominated by ballot in 1962 and local judges chose the queen at the Legion Hall, but the public was not admitted to the presentation. Twelve were again chosen in 1966 by ballot, and these twelve then appeared before judges who balloted for five finalists and took a separate ballot for queen selection.

The audience witnessed an introduction of the young women in 1967 when twelve who were nominated appeared and were rated by judges. Score cards were tallied and selections announced to the public.

Interviews and short talks were part of the selection process in 1969. The public had balloted twice...first for the thirty candidates and then to vote for the twelve semi-finalists. If



Dr. Fultz crowned thirty-four queens before he retired. (Mary Farver crowned in 1966.)

any of the nominees had previously been on the court, they would not be eligible to serve on the court again. They could be selected to be Queen. Judging was based on beauty, poise, personality and speaking ability.

Announcement parties were held at the Christian High auditorium and in later years at the Pella Community High School auditorium.

An early election was held in November, 1984, to choose the 1985 queen.





Princess Juliana listened intently as Leonora Scholte, daughter-in-law of Pella's founder, told about an heirloom. Juliana was visiting in Pella in the year 1942. Leonora Scholte was responsible for the idea of preserving Scholte House where this photo was taken.



Leonora Gaass, great-granddaughter of Dominie Scholte, reigned as the first queen of Tulip Time in May, 1936.



Geselle Mulder was chosen to reign as the 1985 Tulip Queen.

The queen of the 1985 Tulip Festival is the forty-eighth to be chosen. During World War II, festivals were not held (1945 and 1946) and no queens were elected.





Freda Den Burger  
1937



Virginia Van Gorp  
1938



Bernace Vander Linden  
1939



Leona Schilder  
1940

## Our Queens

*Onze Koningin*



Marge Veenman  
1941



Jeanne Van Gorkum  
1942



Ruth Klein  
1943



Martha Van Berkum  
1944





Ruth Vande Geest  
1947



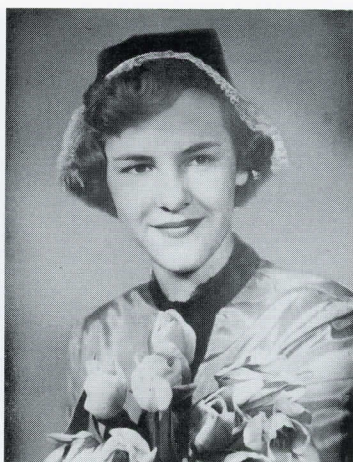
Beverly Thomassen  
1948



Lorraine De Haan  
1949



Wilma Van Zee  
1950



Carol Ver Steeg  
1951



JoAnn Schagen  
1952



Lou Ann LeCocq  
1953



Judy Cook  
1954



Gwen Vanden Berg  
1955





Sandra Cummings  
1956



Andrea Boat  
1957



Hilma Schagen  
1958



Sandra Sels  
1959



Lois De Kock  
1960



Glenda Steenhoek  
1961



Kathy Gosselink  
1962



Mary Ver Meer  
1963



Beverly De Cook  
1964





Elaine Schakel  
1965



Mary Farver  
1966



Judy Grandia  
1967



Judy De Cook  
1968



Andrea Ver Meer  
1969



Sandra Ver Meer  
1970



Tricia Steward  
1971



Emily Vander Ploeg  
1972



Marceta Roberts  
1973





Karla De Cook  
1974



Carol Kuyper  
1975



Ruth Van Gorp  
1976



Kathy Thies  
1977



Mindy Roozeboom  
1978



Marla Nieuwsma  
1979



Monica May  
1980



Kathleen Lucas  
1981



Nancy Thies  
1982

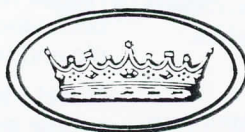




Brenda Boomsma  
1983



Beth Boomsma  
1984



## Our Queens Remember

### *Herinneringen*

**(Quotations from letters and interviews with former queens.)**

"...and my wooden shoes are always by the back door."

"My picture appeared on the cover of the *Register and Tribune* with Easter lilies instead of tulips!"

"Tulip Time in my world, from childhood on, ranked close to Christmas."

"I remember the impromptu street dancing usually as a result of Martha Lautenbach's unending energy."

"I didn't really appreciate being different because my folks came from the Netherlands, but after my selection to be among those chosen for queen, I treasured my Dutch heritage."

"In order to protect our costumes in Orange City during an all-day rain, the chaperones had purchased huge clear plastic bags to 'wrap us in.' My court and I got the giggles... we must have looked like leftovers wrapped in Saran Wrap."

"I was so busy studying at Central and accompanying in the music department that I had difficulty fitting in my duties as queen."

"After the ceremonies were completed, I can recall quickly changing into my Dutch costume and going to work in Carpenter's Drug Store."

"I had the honor of being crowned by the Dutch Ambassador."

"Being driven home at night in the carriage was exciting."

"My year of being queen was doubly special as it was also the 100th anniversary of the founding of our family farm, and that meant a lot to me."

"Meeting and talking to Queen Beatrix at a lovely party in Chicago was a grand finale to a very exciting reign."

"I was proud to represent the community of hard-working people who work long hours all year to provide such a beautiful festival."

"I was not crowned until Friday because it rained so hard on Thursday. However, at West Market,



---

---

on Thursday, hoping for the coronation were my parents, my best friend and Henry Cox, all huddled under trees and umbrellas."

"The rhinestone crown would never stay straight."

"I still keep trying to raise tulips, but it's hard in the desert."

"One of the judges was the crusty columnist, Harlan Miller!"

"I was so busy with operetta rehearsals and my studies at the college that I almost forgot the queen's dinner held at the Coffee Shop in the hotel."

"I strongly feel I was reflecting the heritage I have always been proud to claim."

"I became dedicated to Pella."

"Collecting tulips for our bouquets often caused a problem and a need to identify ourselves."

"I learned so much about my heritage."

"It was more of an honor than a glamorous thing to represent Pella."

"Our convertible apparently overheated and was pouring out blue smoke. We abandoned it."

"Being Tulip Queen meant being proud of Pella and our Dutch heritage, and sharing that pride with others. It's kind of like our witnessing as Christians. We've got something great and we want others to know about it and share in it."

"My stomach was in knots... due to the crown."

"One of my greatest rewards was the graciousness and supportiveness I received from the members of my court."

"The best part of being Tulip Queen is being a past Tulip Queen... they're a really wonderful group of ladies and then feelings of camaraderie prevail."

"It's fun to hear the announcer say, as the old Queens ride by, that none of us have lost our beauty!"

"The attendants' cut-on-the-bias white formals were 'something else!'"

"One of the attendants had her pilot's license and we did a lot of flying. Twice we were turned loose in one plane, followed closely in the air and monitored on the radio by her dad."

"We were taken to the Embassy Club in Des Moines and 'sang for our supper'."

"I got some strange looks leaving the Beverly Hills Hilton in my wooden shoes and Dutch costume when I was on national T.V."

"It took living in more cosmopolitan areas to make me even more grateful for the values and opportunities... of sharing our Dutch roots."

"For my court's dinner... the girls arrived at our farm in high heels and beautiful dresses and their car became stuck in our very muddy driveway. My father pulled them out with a tractor. Also... the electricity had gone off during the storm and delayed my mother's dinner."

"After my marriage we lived in Amsterdam one year and three years in Scheveningen where I grew to more deeply love and appreciate many of the things which are native to the Dutch people."

"I love Arizona, but I surely feel lucky to have been raised in such a special community of people and traditions."

"I feel I have been responsible for a number of people visiting Pella."

"We had a flat tire on the way to Ames. We were all in full costume and got out of the car... never have I seen so many cars pull over to help."

"I was thrilled to be selected as queen... however, I would have to feel that maturity of ensuing years have given that experience and the feeling of pride in my Dutch heritage an even deeper significance."

"Our entire family has been members of the royal court. My husband was once a page, one daughter was a page and another daughter was a flower girl and a page."

"A visitor in our home would notice the Dutch accent in numerous items and my spring garden must include tulips!"

"I loved every minute of 'my year'."

"It was great to be able to share some of my heritage with my students and teach history as well."

"The highway patrol escorts made us feel special as they took us everywhere... even out for coffee after the parades."

"...and it made me aware of the fact that my great, great-grandfather was Treasurer of the group of Dutch people that came to Pella with Dominie Scholte."

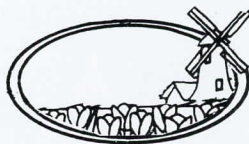


"In the Senate chambers at the Iowa State Capital I had just given my speech and was to finish it with a Dutch welcome—only I forgot the Dutch. I had already said, 'As we say in Dutch . . . ' and the only thing I could think of was a combination of Dutch last names. A senator said too loudly 'Doesn't sound like Dutch to me!' (And I couldn't get away fast enough.)"

"I remember how exciting it was to go to the storage barn before the festival to take a peek at our float. Ours was the first year for night parades and it was such a thrill to see the lights go on all around us."

Bruce Jenner, the 1976 Olympic decathlon gold medalist, talked to the Queen and her Court in 1977 at the Drake Relays. He autographed Tulip Time brochures for each. "To our surprise we saw him again a week later at the Veisha parade. He waved and yelled, "Long time no see!"

It was also in 1977 that the Queen, in complete Dutch costume, with her band leader who was accompanying the band in Washington, D.C., took a taxi to the Senate office building. They were asked if they'd just been married!



### Representing the Provinces and Islands of The Netherlands



Here are the ladies who represented the eleven provinces and two islands of The Netherlands at the 1938 Festival gathered at West Park. Left to right they are: Mrs. H.O. Wormhoudt, Volendam; Mrs. John Hagens, Friesland; Mrs. Arie Schilder, Drente; Miss Hattie Vander Meulen, Gelderland; Mrs. H.B. Sixsmith, Limburg; Miss Marie Lefebber, Zeeland; Mrs. H. Roeffel, N. Holland; Mrs. P.H. Scholte, Queen Wilhelmina; Mrs. Fred Visser, S. Holland; Mrs. Gary Vogelaar, Utrecht; Mrs. A.B. Wormhoudt, Noord Brabant; Mrs. Hugo Kuyper, Overysel; Mrs. Ed Van Gorp, Groningen, Mrs. Ralph Grundman, representing the Isle of Marken is not present.



# Attendants to Her Majesty

## *De hofdames van hare Majesteit*



- 1936 Ruth Heerema, Martha Intveld, Betty Lankelma, Virginia Van Gorp
- 1937 Joan Kuyper, Betty Lankelma, Virginia Van Gorp, Leatanne Vander Pol
- 1938 Anna Joyce Klein, Janet Klyn, Leona Schilder, Bernace VanderLinden
- 1939 Janet Klyn, Leona Schilder, Margaretta Slobe, Martha Van Berkum
- 1940 Virginia Kempkes, Helen Klyn, Martha Van Beurkum, Marge Veenman
- 1941 Virginia Kempkes, Helen Klyn, Lois Vanden Berg, Jean Van Gorkum
- 1942 Ruth Klein, Janet Vande Kieft, Marcia Ver Steeg, Theresa Wormhoudt
- 1943 Virginia Carpenter, Carol Cook, Madeline Diekema, Jeannette Lankelma
- 1944 Francene De Prenger, Margaret DeWild, Phyliss Van Ee, Georgia VanGorkum

### 1945-46 No festival

- 1947 Uella Dingeman, Bernice Heerema, Bernace Jaarsma Ruth Vogelaar
- 1948 Bernice Heerema, MaryLou Kamerick, Verla Vander Streek, Jane VanSittert
- 1949 Beula DeHeer, Ruth DenAdel, Mildred Hugen, Elaine VanderPloeg
- 1950 Elizabeth Kempkes, Mildred VanderVeer, Nancy Van Maanen, Dorothy VerMeer
- 1951 Elizabeth Kempkes, Marlene Sels, Retha VandeHaar, Carol VerSteeg
- 1952 Barbara Buyert, LouAnn LeCocq, Marlene Sels, Retha VandeHaar
- 1953 Arlene Jellema, Peggy Kuyper, Joyce Petersma, Martha Van Eckeren
- 1954 Bernice DeGeus, Eloise DeZwarte, Marsha Jansen, Sally Jo VerDught
- 1955 Sandra Cummings, Ruth Dahm, Sara Gosselink, Lila Klein
- 1956 Andrea Boat, Marlene Duven, Geraldine Rus, Mary Lou Ten Hagen
- 1957 Sharon Bakker, Bonnie DeJong, Marlene Duven, Evelyn Dykstra
- 1958 Marla DeWild, Sandra Klein, Bonnie Kuyper, Retha Stursma
- 1959 Shirley Groendyke, Sandra Klein, Joan Nollen, Marlyn Van Ee
- 1960 Mary Boat, Bev Boatsma, Linda Tysseling, Karen Wesselink
- 1961 Kathy Gosselink, Kay Kuyper, Kay McDonald, Karen Wesselink
- 1962 Sharon Breen, Judy DeJong, Pam Gaass, Elaine Schakel
- 1963 Beverly DeCook, Pamela Klein, Charlene Klyn, Mary Wing
- 1964 Barbara Duven, Pam Klein, Twyla Van Steenis, Pam Wilson
- 1965 Judy DeCook, Lois DeJong, Lynn Van Tuyl, Pamela Wilson
- 1966 Judy DeCook, Judy Grandia, Eunice Roorda, Carol VanderPloeg
- 1967 Barb Kuiper, Susan Snyder, Karin Tucker, Karin VanZante
- 1968 Barbara Mickmershuizen, Nancy Paris, Andrea VerMeer, Mary Ann Vermeer
- 1969 Ann Dahm, Carol Hedrick, Janice Grandia, Mary VerPloeg
- 1970 Kim Evers, Judy VanderKrol, Sherri VanderWilt, Kristi Vos
- 1971 Lisa Mills, Ruth Van Gorp, Barbara VerMeer, Connie Whalley
- 1972 Cynthia Butler, Carol Kooi, Ann Renskers, Gail VanderPloeg
- 1973 Kristy Engbers, Ruth Hagens, Marcey Overman, Beverly VerMeer
- 1974 Peg Engbers, Kim Renskers, Lola Vander Leest, Jaci VanderWert
- 1975 Lynn Hinga, Connie Jaarsma, Mary Jo VanderPloeg, Cassie Van Zee
- 1976 Jaci Evers, Debbie Kooyman, Vicki Newendorp, Laurie Van Gorp
- 1977 Cindy DeJong, Jennifer Hoekstra, Carol Kanis, Lorene Rook



1978 Bev Gritters, Julie Sadler, Carol VanderLeest, Wendy Van Zee  
 1979 Becky Rietveld, Pam Ruiter, Lois Ryken, Julie Van Gorp  
 1980 Andrea Busker, Renee DeBoef, Patti Monsma, Norma Stursma  
 1981 Sandy DeZwarte, Valerie Newendorp, Laura Rozenboom, Lori Vroom  
 1982 LeeAnn DeReus, Lori VanderLeest, Rosie VanWyk, Ann VerMeer  
 1983 Cristi Koopman, Amber Terpstra, Lucia VandeKamp, Lisa Van Rheen  
 1984 Patti Beintema, Julie DeReus, Carol Roorda, Julie Vander Wilt



The 1985 Queen and her Court pose in the Birdsall Delft Room. Queen Geselle Mulder is seated at right. Attendants are, clockwise: Stephanie Te Ronde, Glenda Vander Waal, Sandy Gosselink and Kelly Kredit.



# Friesland



## Hindeloopen



## Volendam



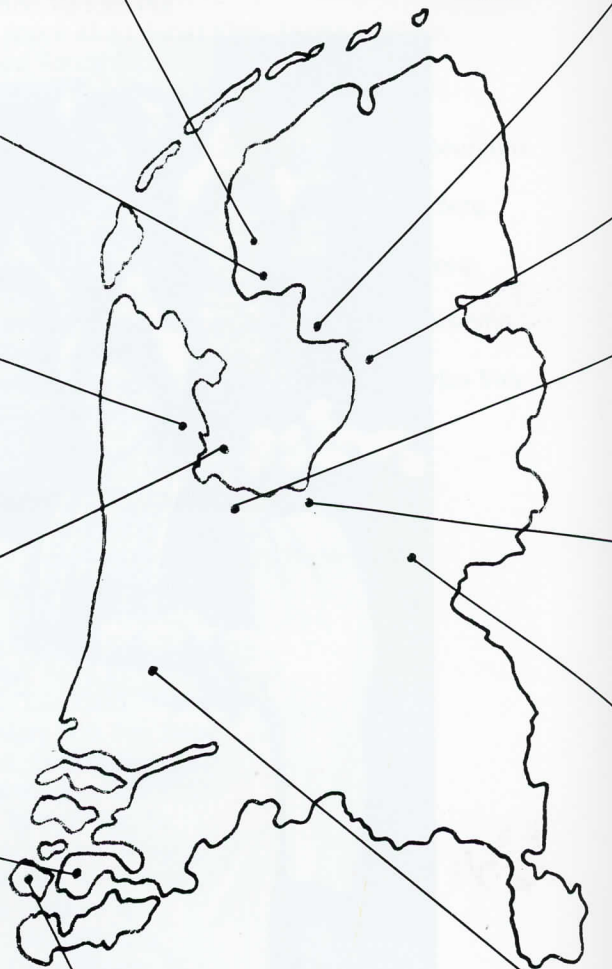
## Marken



## Zuid Beveland Burgemeester



## Walcheren







**Urk**



**Staphorst**



**Huizen**



**Bunschoten-Spakenberg**



**Gelderland**



**Zuid Holland**



# Costumes

## *Kledrachten*

For many years after the first Tulip Time, the queen and her court wore formals during festival ceremonies. Some queens, attired in white, wore handmade formals, others rented gowns or purchased dresses, and several queens used their festival gown at a later date for their weddings.

By 1961, with increased interest in Dutch authenticity, decisions were made to research costumes of various historical periods in a variety of Dutch cities and villages. A fascinating metamorphosis resulted as local seamstresses met a new challenge.

Often there were no patterns for the new costumes, only photos copied from the Openlucht Museum in Arnhem, the Netherlands.

New costumes have been made for the burgemeester (1972) and a new coronation robe was made in 1973. Pages and flower girls have worn beautiful new creations.

Accessories have been crocheted by local women and jewelry and lace imported from the Netherlands.

Dutch costumes identify the wealth of the wearer, the marital status and the province of the person.

Winter months are spent sewing on costumes and after selection of a queen and court, fitting work is done for each girl.

Residents of Pella are also attired in a variety of authentic costumes made from patterns available to them. The diversity of dress creates a panorama of color and style.



**Provincial Children's Costumes**



---

---

# Tulip Tower

*Tulpen Toren*



Built in 1940, the Tulpen Tower was used for Princess Juliana's stage in 1942. The architect, John Lautenbach, conceived the idea of the twin pylons from a biblical description of King Solomon's temple.

The first tower was made of plywood, not intended to be a permanent structure. It was built horizontally and was to be raised in position in

the southwest corner of Central Park. During the first attempt at raising it, the tower crashed and had to be repaired before its erection.

After three years, the wooden tower was removed because of deterioration...much to the regret of the townspeople who had enjoyed the tower at Tulip Time as well as for other community functions.



## ...and Dutch tulip time Hollands



Twenty-five years after the first Tulip Tower had been demolished, a new, permanent structure was finally built to replace it. In 1968, a gift to the city from Mr. and Mrs. P.H. Kuyper was designed by Stanley Ver Ploeg who used lines similar to those of John Lautenbach.

Twin pylons of reinforced concrete were cast at a Des Moines plant, the sections welded to heavy steel girders forming the frame. The double-faced crest of the Netherlands at the top

weighs thirteen tons and is in precast cement. Colors used are red, white and gold. It rises sixty-five feet in the air.

The motto translates from the French "I Shall Maintain" . . . Je Maintiendrai.

In 1971 bells, chimes and a clock were added to the tower.

During Tulip Time, the colors of the flag of the Netherlands are flown from the soaring twin pylons.





## Dancing in the streets . . .

*Dansen op straat*





## **. . . and Dutch celebrations**

### *Hollandse feesten*



Pella's feesthouden is an evening extravaganza of Dutch-American traditions begun in 1982. Patriotism and religion blend as hundreds of children and adults celebrate our unique heritage. Feesthouden precedes the beautiful parade of lighted floats.



Songs and games amuse the children

and the street  
organ, Goliath, adds  
festive melodies







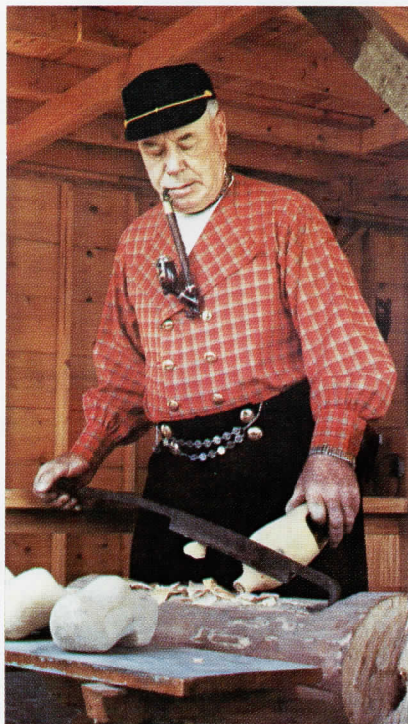
In 1948, the display tulips were flown to Iowa by American Air Lines as gifts of gratitude from Dutch people for the aid they had received from America during World War II.

In 1977, premature spring weather caused tulips to be gone by Tulip Time. Twenty thousand cut tulips were flown to Pella from the state of Washington where they were grown by the Netherlands Bulb Industry. These potted tulips were put in display beds in the city.



# Familiar Faces...

*Bekende Gezichten*



*de bakker*

John De Haan



*de klompen maaker*

Nick De Jong



Caretakers  
*Huisbewaarder*

Frank and Eva Ryken

The Provinces  
*de Provincian*

June Sloan







## School Children

### *School Kinderen*

For twenty-seven years Clarence Buerkens, Superintendent of the Pella Community School, marched at the head of the hundreds of children in the parade. He portrayed the Dutch Schoolmaster. In this photo, Mr. Buerkens had taken off his formal hat and put it on a child's head, much to the amusement of all. The principal of the Christian School, Klaas Kramer, assisted in the lead.

In 1967 Mr. Buerkens retired from school administration and also from his role as parade schoolmaster. Instead, he became the Town Crier.





---

---

# The Parade of the Children

*de optocht van het kinderen*



Cornelia Wilson and Marie Lefeber, cousins, arranged for the first annual Baby Parade and sponsored it for many years. The young children have always been crowd pleasers, dressed in costume and riding in treasured antique carriages.

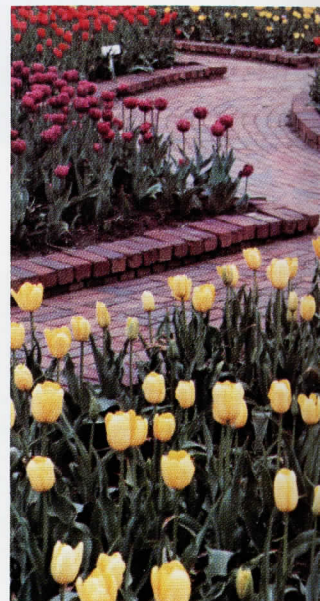






## Tulip Time in Pella

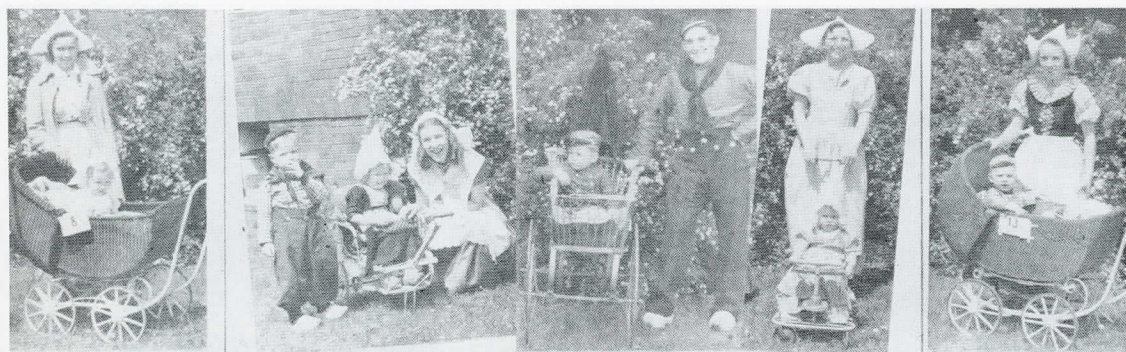
*Het Tulpen Feest  
en Pella*











FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD PRIZE WINNERS



1. Patsy Schreiner, attended by her sister Norma Jean Schreiner.
2. Marlene Intveld, attended by Logan and Barbara Van Sittert.
3. Alvin Eugene De Wild, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy De Wild, attended by Carl Hempstead.
4. Janet Kay Palmer, attended by her mother, Mrs. Kenneth Palmer.
5. Harold Vos, attended by his mother, Mrs. Ed Vos.
6. Eloise Joye De Zwart, attended by her mother, Mrs. Marion De Zwart.
7. Shirley Rae Vanden Baard, attended by her mother, Mrs. Cornie Vanden Baard.
8. Jarel Jean Vander Heuvel, attended by her mother, Mrs. Henry Vander Heuvel.
9. Marion Van Gorp, Jr., and his friends, Sallie Winter, Patsy Rydam, and Dickie Mini, attended by Mrs. Marion Van Gorp.
10. Judith Ann Cook, attended by her mother, Mrs. Dr. J. M. Cook.
11. Edwin Mohler, attended by his mother, Mrs. Babe Mohler.





Robert F. Kennedy, his wife and children, were invited to attend Tulip Time in 1968. Randal Dahlin, an eight year old Pella boy, received a letter of regret and later a thank you for Dutch pastries he had sent.



**ROBERT F. KENNEDY**  
NEW YORK

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

April 1, 1968

Mr. Randal S. Dahlin  
909 Columbus Street  
Pella, Iowa 50219

Dear Randal:

Thank you for your kind invitation to attend the Tulip Festival to be held in your city on May 9th, 10th and 11th.

Although I would very much like to be with you for this event, my schedule is such that I will not be able to attend. I appreciate your thoughtfulness in inviting me, and perhaps I will be able to join you another time.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Robert F. Kennedy





## Winning floats in 1984 parade





# Pella Historical Village



An aerial view of the Historical Village includes the newest addition, a building to house historic musical treasures and Historical Society archives.



Interior of an original log cabin from Pella area.



The Birdsall Delft Room with Hindeloopen Room to rear.



Interior of Sterrenberg Library with original walls and beams.



The pulpit used by Dominie Hendrick Scholte in Utrecht, the Netherlands and baptismal font from early Second Reformed Church.





# The Parade goes on

*De Optocht gaat door*







Soon after Tulip Time in 1982, a group of persons from Pella attended a reception held at the Chicago Art Institute honoring Her Majesty Queen Beatrix and Her Royal Highness Prince Claus of the Netherlands.

## Our Friends

### *Onze Vrienden*



Dutch Ambassador to the U.S., Jan Hendrik Lubbers, attended the 1983 festival and crowned Brenda Boomsma.

Iowa's First Family, the Branstads, dressed in Dutch costumes for the 1984 festival.





Central College has always been an integral part of Tulip Time. Students and faculty participate in many Tulip Time activities. The college, established in 1853, was a dream realized by Pella's founders.



*De molen op de hoek*

This colorful windmill in Central Park was given to the city by Van Gorp Mfg.

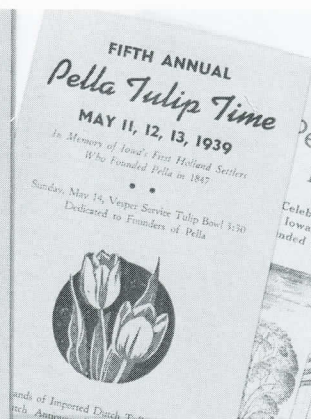
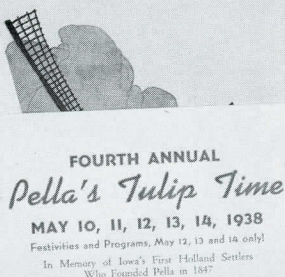
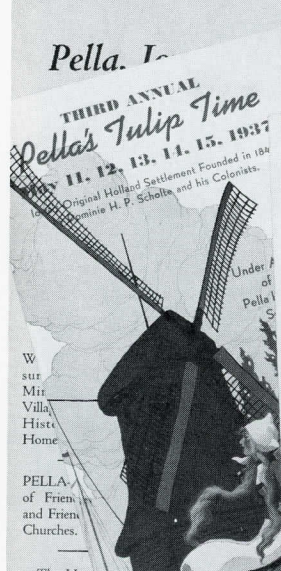


Still in progress at publication time was the new 'klokenspiel' which was the "brain child" of the arch committee which fulfills a dream of the late P.H. Kuyper. The animated figures will, on one side, be characters from Pella's history and include Scholte baptizing a baby, Mareah Scholte with broken delft and Wyatt Earp. On the other side will be characters familiar in Tulip Time parades. The figures will appear at designated time every day.



Program Section--The Pella Chronicle, Pella, Iowa, Thursday, May 7, 1936

# Daily Souvenir Program SECOND ANNUAL PELLA'S TULIP TIME



## Pella Tulip Time and Centennial May 8, 9, 10

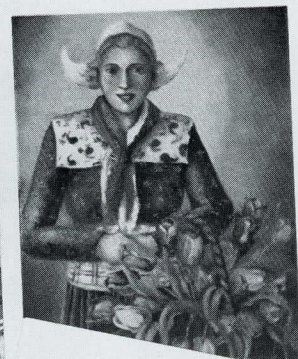
A celebration to perpetuate the memory of Iowa's first Holland Settlers who founded Pella in 1847.



Pella's Tenth Annual Tulip Time, Known as Iowa's Most Colorful Event, Depicts--

Thousands of Bright Blooming Tulips  
Townfolk in Authentic Dutch Costumes  
Thousands of Priceless Dutch Antiques  
Volkparade of Colorful Floats  
Dutch Folklore and Pageantry  
Nightly Historical Pageant--"The City of Refuge"

under auspices of  
The Pella Historical Society  
and  
Pella Chamber of Commerce



## Pella Tulip Eleventh Annual 1948 May 13, 14,

A celebration to perpetuate the memory of Iowa's first Holland Settlers who founded Pella in 1847.



11th Annual Tulip Time, Known as Iowa's Most Colorful Event, Depicts--

Thousands of Bright Blooming Tulips  
Townfolk in Authentic Dutch Costumes  
Thousands of Priceless Dutch Antiques  
Volkparade of Colorful Floats  
Dutch Folklore and Pageantry  
Nightly Performance in Open-Air  
"The Blue Tulip"

Under Auspices of  
The Pella Historical Society  
and  
Pella Chamber of Commerce

## Pella Tulip Time Twelfth Annual Festival May 12, 13, 14, 1949 Pella, Iowa

A celebration to perpetuate the memory of Iowa's first Holland settlers who founded Pella in 1847.



Pella's 12th Annual Tulip Time, Known as Iowa's Most Colorful Event, Depicts--

Thousands of Bright Blooming Tulips  
Townfolk in Authentic Dutch Costumes  
Thousands of Priceless Dutch Antiques  
Volkparade of Colorful Floats  
Dutch Folklore and Pageantry

Nightly Performance in Open-Air

"The Blue Tulip"

An Operetta Written Especially for  
Pella's Tulip Time  
Under Auspices of

The Pella Historical Society  
and  
Pella Chamber of Commerce

Pella  
Invites  
You !!

T  
U  
L  
I  
P  
T

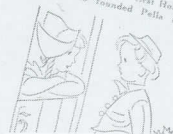


M  
A  
Y



## 13th ANNUAL PELLA TULIP TIME MAY 11 - 12 - 13 - 1950 Pella, Iowa

A celebration to perpetuate the memory of Iowa's first Holland settlers who founded Pella in 1847.



## Early Programs

## Vroege Programmen

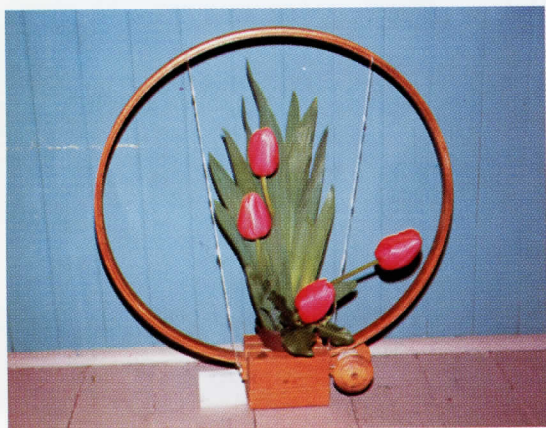
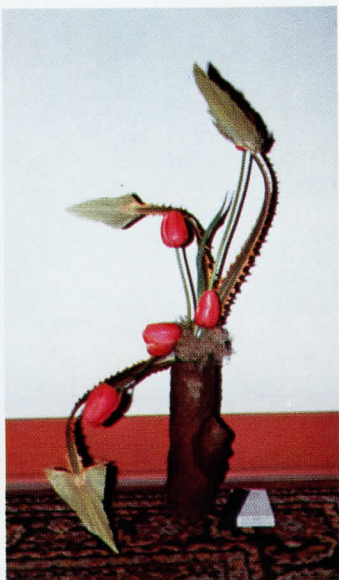
Included was art work by Conrad Dickel (1936, 1937), Vernon Bobbit (1938) and Cornelius Bartels (1940).



# Tulpen



Arrangements seen at recent flower shows sponsored by the Pella Garden Club.







Dominie Scholte's great-grandson, Peter Gaass, carries the Dutch flag.



Ardith Roehr and Dorothy Vander Leest



Dr. Orville Dunkin



Darrell Shaefer and Karl Magnussen



Art Bokhoven

A Burgemeester and Town Crier continue tradition as do the women pushing the bloemen wagon and cheesemen delivering their products.

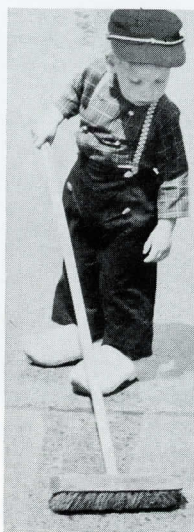




## Cleanliness is . . .



Des Moines Register Wm. Dabey







**. . . a Dutch Tradition**  
*Schoonheid boven al in Nederland*





# Our Friends Delight in Festivities

*Onze vrienden vinden de feesten prachtig*



Governor Clyde Herring and scrubbers, 1935.



Governor Harold Hughes with Burgemeester Fultz.



Governor William Beardsly takes the street-scrubbing brush.



Governor Leo Hoegh donned wooden shoes.



Governor Norman Erbe was a spirited participant.



Governor Robert D. Ray and Pella's Mayor "Babe" Caldwell.





Congressman James Roosevelt, son of F.D.R., attended Tulip Time in 1960. He especially enjoyed the festivities as he was of Dutch origin.



Queen Beverly De Cook flew to Hollywood to appear on "The Tonight Show" with host Steve Allen in 1964.



Harry Durkes, a retired farmer, started photographing Tulip Time in 1958 and continued until his death in 1982.

Photo by Robert J. Modersohn  
Des Moines Register and Tribune



Duane Ellet and Floppy have enjoyed Tulip Time.



# Our Friends Delight

## Familiar Faces

*Bekende Gezichten*



**Vegetable Cart**  
*Groente Kar*

Ethel De Winter  
and Carrie Reis



**Milk Cart**  
*Melk Kar*

Marion and Janet Van Gorp



**Flower Wagon**  
*Bloemenkar*

Sonja and Mary Overman  
with Nola Vander Streek



**Scissors Sharpener**  
*de Skaarslijper*

Rudy Ulrich





John Ver Meer

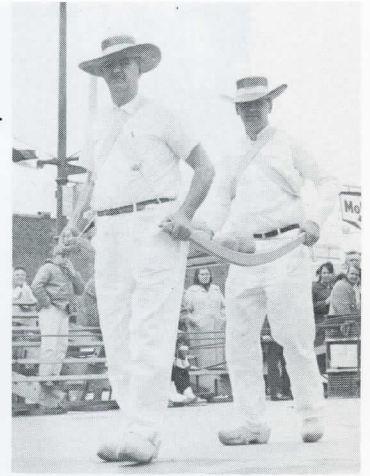
*de Kippeboer*

Tunis Kempkes



*Twee Kaashandelaars*

Bill and Orland Huyser



## ... in Familiar Places *in bekende plaatsen*



*de Volharding*

Carl Vogelaar and son, Ted



Les Liter



Organ Grinder  
*Orgel Draaier*

Maurice Birdsall





## **The Whole Dutch Family**

### *De hele Hollandse Familie*

One portion of the parade, posed to portray the love of the Dutch for large families, has been popular through the years. Usually more than a dozen children from babies to teenagers march in orderly file behind "the parents".



# War Years

*De Oorlog Jaars*



In 1945 Tulip Time traveled to Ottumwa Airbase. No other celebration was held that year. The 1944 queen and her court and many people from Pella shared a wartime festivity with 2500 Navy personnel to keep alive the spirit of Tulip Time.



## PELLA TULIPS WAIT AS DUTCH AID HOMELAND

**Auction to Replace  
Fete This Year.**

In 1946, an auction was held and proceeds went to aid the Dutch in Holland.





# **Tulip Time Drama**



# Drama

PREMIERE PRESENTATION

## The "Blue Tulip"

A Modern Dutch Operetta  
Written Especially for  
PELLA'S TULIP TIME  
by  
Walter Stone and Jack Peoples

### CAST

(In the order of their appearance)

Mietje Klatteboorst, the girl  
Dirk Van Vleidt, the boy  
Katrina Van Vleidt, Dirks' sister  
Sammy Horatious Jones, an American in Holland  
Sammy Klenk, a Cheesemaker  
Hilary Klenk, the Burgemeester's father

## The Story



"The Blue Tulip" is an original Dutch Operetta, written along modern lines. It is written by two Iowa composers, Walter Stone and Jack Peoples of Burlington. Mr. Stone spent much time in Pella during the winter gathering data and other material.

The locale of the story is in an imaginary village in the Province of Friesland in the Netherlands. Mietje, the girl, and Dirk, the boy, are sweet-

- 1937... "Blue Tulip" (rained out the first night as 3600 rushed for cover)
- 1938 and 1939... Harry Sixsmith directed "Blue Tulip" and "The Seige of Leyden" was re-enacted. "Snow White" was given by school children.
- 1941... Six scenes from "A Stranger in a Strange Land" depicted Dutch colonists in Pella. "Spirit of Tulip Time" opened and closed events.
- 1942... "Defenders of the Flag" (seven patriotic episodes)
- 1943... "Four Freedoms" pageant directed by Maurice Birdsall.
- 1947... Centennial Year with a cast of 680 acting in "City of Refuge" at the Swimming Pool Park... directed by Paul T. Haagen.  
Martha Lautenbach narrated "Echoes of Pioneer Days"  
"Centennial Hymn" written by Lon Wormhoudt and Henry Cox.
- 1948... "Red Mill" given in West Market's "natural bowl" and black light was first used.
- 1949... "Blue Tulip" Cornelius A. Bartels designed the set. (He was from the Netherlands and had designed sets in State Theater in Rotterdam.)
- 1950... "Sweethearts" given on a new cement stage at West Market.
- 1952... 350 elementary children presented "A Little Bit of Holland"
- 1953... "Knickerbocker Holiday" at Central College (the biggest problem was the wooden leg needed for the leading character)

in other years...

"Tulip Time"	.....	"Call Me Madam"
.....	"Annie Get Your Gun"	..... "Finian's Rainbow"
"Happy Hunting"	.....	"Nellie, Orphan Girl"
.....	"Golden Fleecing"	..... "Hansel and Gretel"

The dramatic production for our 1985 Tulip Time is "Babes in Toyland" which will be held on Central College's campus.



---

---

# Beautiful Flowers

## *Prachtige Bloemen*

Since 1937, the Tulip Time Flower Show has delighted all who have been participants and those who attend to view the exquisite displays.

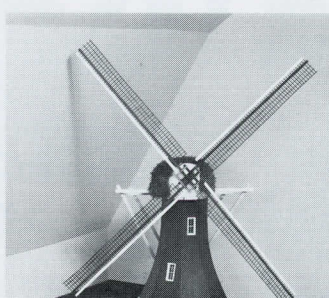
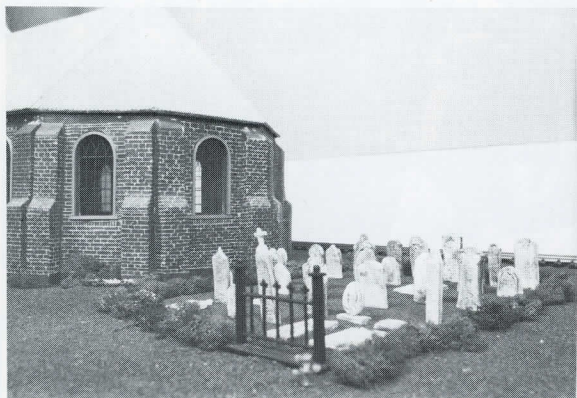
Begun as a project sponsored by the local Fortnightly Literary Club, the flower show has subsequently been sponsored by the Federated Women's Club and the Historical Society. Since

1961, the show has been managed by the Garden Club.

In 1948 the flower show developed two divisions...horticulture and artistic arrangements done in pottery, brass, copper, silver or glass containers. Tulips have been mandatory in all exhibits except dried floral arrangements.

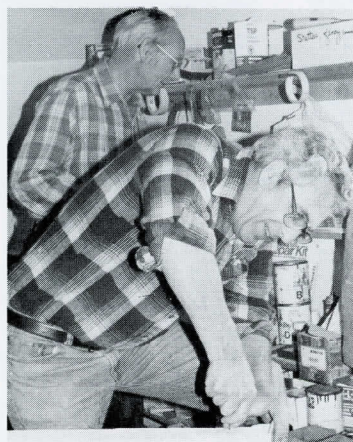






## Miniature Village

### *Miniatuur Dorp*



"A Day in Holland" is the title used since 1938 for the display which is viewed as an especially interesting miniature village. The seventy original buildings were designed by George Heeren and were built with assistance of Pella Community High School and Central College students.

In the early 1970's, due to water damage and disrepair, the village was relegated to storage and was not displayed for several years.

Restoration of the forty-year old village was begun in 1978 by Dean Sadler, craftsman and creator of miniatures. Paul Roorda is a capable assistant in creative ventures. Painsstaking procedures were used in making each building architecturally authentic. A dedicated group of volunteers has enhanced the village with many miniature pieces added to the originals. All of the model buildings have at one time been actual places in Holland cities or in the rural areas.

The village is an ever-growing fascination.







# A Thousand Pair of Wooden Shoes

*een duizend paar van KLOMPEN*

In 1947, after a two year absence of Tulip Time activities, P.H. Kuyper obtained one thousand pairs of wooden shoes for persons in Pella. He had asked the assistance of the Ambassador from the Netherlands in obtaining them, a gesture of thanks from the Netherlands for the hundreds of thousands of dollars given the country in relief during the war. The shoes were shipped from the port of Rotterdam in March and arrived in Pella in time for Tulip Time.



## Dutch Family Singers

*Het zangkoor van Nederlanders*



### Twee Emmertjes Water Halen

Twee Emmertjes Water Halen  
Twee Emmertjes Water Halen  
Twee Emmertjes Pompen  
Meisje op je klompen  
Meisje op de houten been  
Rijdt maar door myn poortje  
heen

In

Lang zal z  
Lang zal z  
Lang zal z  
In de Glo  
In de Glo

Honderd  
Zal ze nie  
Honderd



### Meisje Ga Je

Meisje ga je mee?  
We dansen met z'n twee  
Kun je't niet, dat hindert niet  
Dan huppel je maar mee  
Meisje ziet goed toe  
Hoe ik alles doe  
Kun je't niet dat hindert niet,  
Dan ga'k, naar'n ander toe  
Tra-la-la-la-la  
Tra-la-la-la-la  
Tra-la-la-la-la



Sunken Garden, first called "Tulip Town," was built by the Jaycees in 1937. Three symbols of Holland are seen in this park: the windmill, tulips and the lagoon in the shape of a wooden shoe.



## They Helped Make The Parades

*Zij hielpen mig met de versierde wagen*



Floris Geurts and Jake Van Gorp were master float builders through many years of Tulip Time, using ingenious designs to make each of their floats look different every year. They took great pride in each creation. People were amazed at the beauty and grandeur of their creations.

Many people have been dedicated to float construction. Their unique talents add special enjoyment for spectators.

Parades at night feature floats with lights which transform Garden Square into a twinkling fairy land.







---

---

# Trivia

## *van alles en neg wat*

—Pearl Van Gorp, Irish by birth but Dutch by association, added humor in parades by “losing” one of her many petticoats during street scrubbing. Scrubbers closed in about her while she retrieved the fallen item.

—In 1942 Burgemeester Fultz forgot the memento pins he was to present to the attendants. Instead, he gave each a penny. In 1948 Fultz got out of his sick bed to attend and preside at the coronation!

—Many Pella people are proud to say they’ve never missed a Tulip Time.

—Enthusiasm for Tulip Time died only once. When the Germans invaded Holland in 1940, it was announced at the Tulip Time Festival. As the announcement was read to hushed crowds, the people bowed their heads in silence while the organ played the Dutch National Anthem. Rev. Richard Vanden Berg concluded with a prayer of concern for relatives in the Netherlands and thanks to God for American freedom.

—A four year old boy who was asked to ride on a float with a little girl took a week to think about it. Finally he said he had to first see the girl, then the float, and then he’d make up his mind!

—Ben Boyd added a new mural in the Post Office in 1938.

—Six charming ‘ladies’ representing past Tulip Queen mothers were acted out by men dressed in women’s clothing in a skit in which the mothers formed an exclusive organization to get more recognition at Tulip Time. The mothers also wanted kisses from the governor! They tried to elect a president for the group of mothers, but were unsuccessful as each ‘woman’ voted for herself.

—Ray DeHaan was a devoted escort to many Tulip Time courts as they traveled about on personal appearances.

—In 1942, Princess Juliana of the Netherlands was present for Central College’s Commencement. Included in the class were two past queens, Bernice Vander Linden (1939) and Leona Schilder (1940).

—First queen on a coin, and last to be crowned by Dr. Fultz, was Tricia Steward.

—In 1938, Vespers were held on Sunday afternoon in the Tulip Bowl at West Market Park. Later, Dutch services were held after the parade in the First Reformed Church with the Dominie in costume . . . and the service in Dutch.

—Many organists have added their talents through the years . . . among them Verne Ford, Bill McMains and Hop and Jean Kuyper.

—The Overman family has for several years awarded the leading high school band to perform in parades.

—Sometimes being the Queen is ‘all in the family’. Three sisters were chosen to reign from the DeCook family. Beverly was chosen in 1964, Judy in 1968 and Karla in 1974. Other sisters were JoAnn (1952) and Hilma Schagen (1958), Mary and Andrea VerMeer in 1963 and 1969 and Kathy and Nancy Thies in 1977 and 1982.

—Maurice Birdsall has for many years arranged antique displays in merchants’ windows . . . a labor of love!

—The yokes used by scrubbers were originally made in the mid-30s by a local cabinet maker. They were hewn by hand.

—28 past queens still live in Iowa. The remaining 19 are scattered coast to coast, border to border.

—Entertainment in evening Tulip Times in the 40’s was in form of roller skating group performances on a make-shift “rink” made of rough lumber, topped with masonite. Skaters practiced in the Legion Hall all winter under the watchful eye of “Drieke” Van Niewaal.

—The torch lit in the Centennial Tulip Time which signified the future, never did light well and was more of a smudge than a torch.

—In the early 60s, the Wyatt Earp house was almost torn down before the idea of a historical village ever was developed. Ben Vogelaar built a brick house next to the old Earp place, placing his house far back on the lot with intentions of improving the view by razing the old brick structure. However word got around that the childhood home of Wyatt Earp was in Pella and tourists started stopping by to see it. (TV had immortalized the Earp name). Later the Earp house and Vogelaar’s house was sold to the Pella His-



torical Society. This was the beginning of the Historical Village and the rest is history. Almost half of a city block has been purchased piecemeal.

—Stuart Blauw, now a minister, as a Central student in the early 50s arranged for the first tour wagons. He used farm wagons equipped with chairs loaned from the Open Bible Church. Profit was less than \$300, but a great idea was born. Bleachers were also added at that time.

—A Dutch singing and dancing group, the Dutchesses, entertains each year, traveling about the state to promote Tulip Time. They are sixteen high school girls from Pella Christian and Pella Community high schools, four from each class. Each year four girls graduate and four new ones are chosen. Half of the girls dress in boys' costumes to make eight couples.

—The Scholte Church replica in the Historical Village is three-fourths size of the original that was located on West First across the street from the Westview Apartments.

## Historic Scene Re-enacted in Great Pageant "City of Refuge"



Wellington Nossaman and his wife Sarah welcomed Dominie Hendrick Pieter Scholte and his wife Mareah and the accompanying Hollanders when they arrived at the Nossaman home south of the present site of Pella. History records that the American pioneer families were very kind to the Dutch when they came to this strange land one hundred years ago. In the picture, left to right: Robert Lautenbach as Scholte, Mrs. Leonora Van Dellen as Mareah, D. O. Thomas as Nossaman, Mrs. D. O. Thomas as Sarah Nossaman, Paul Haagen, Mrs. Paul Haagen and Mrs. R. C. Lautenbach as Hollanders. The baby is Roger Nimmo, great-great-grandson of Wellington Nossaman. As the pioneers welcomed the Dutch so Pella folks welcome friends of other ancestry to the Centennial Tulip Festival of 1947.



---

---

# Scholte House

*(de huis van Scholte)*

In the early years of Tulip Time, the Scholte House was opened to the public, but in subsequent years was used as a family home for Scholte descendants with an apartment for friends.

In 1982, the beautiful Scholte House, built in 1847-48, was given to the Historical Society by descendants of Dominie Scholte. The gift of the house and grounds was given by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Gaass, a great-grandson and

Leonora Gaass Hettinga, a great-granddaughter.

The house is a popular attraction at Tulip Time and throughout the year when it is shown by appointment.

The two curators, Alice Lammers and Martha Lautenbach, are pictured at the historic chest in which gold guilders were brought to Pella by the first settlers.





## Bits and Pieces

### Kleinigheden





# We Preserve the Past for the Future

*Bewaar het verleden voor de toekomst*

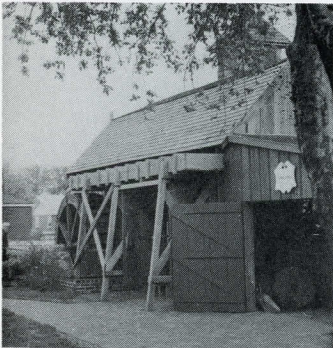


The Wyatt Earp boyhood home before its restoration.



Van Spankeren Store as it appeared in earlier days. It was built in 1849 and the beam irons were added in 1853. These two buildings are among Pella's first homes and places of business.

The restoration committee of past years were: standing, Fred Hawker and (left to right) Marie Blecha, Martha Lautenbach, William Van Tyl, Robert Klein.



Beason-Blommers Grist Mill.



The Sterrenberg Library and home of Birdsall Delft display.



---

# School children and teachers

*Schoolkinderen en schooljuffrouwen*



School children add a spontaneous aspect in their march before thousands of appreciative spectators.



These photographs were taken in the late 1940's. Two long-time teachers and their classes are included. (Left photo Miss Dena Ver Steeg and photo on right, Miss Leona Reuvers.)





# Historical Society

## 1984-85 Board of Directors



**Left to right: front row,** Barbara Dieleman, Eunice Kuyper, Marie Blecha, Dody Boat and Sylvia Van Zee.  
**back row,** Arie Boat, Harry Vermeer, Peter Gaass, Charles Beintema, Bob Klein and Maurice Birdsall

Harry Vermeer, President  
 Pete Gaass, Vice President  
 Dody Boat, Secretary  
 Arie Boot, Treasurer  
 Eunice Kuyper  
 Marie Blecha  
 Chuck Beintema  
 Barb Dieleman  
 Sylvia Van Zee  
 Vince Klyn  
 Frank Overman  
 Ralph Jaarsma  
 Merlyn Vander Leest  
 Wayne Vander Leest  
 Mary Borg  
 Gene De Boef  
 Muriel Kooi  
 Jo Harmeling  
 Bobby Klein  
 Ken Uitermarkt  
 Bev Brand  
 Robert De Jager  
 Lois Vermeer  
 Dena Bokhoven  
 Glenda Duven  
 Bob Van Hemert  
 Patsy Sadler

### Honorary:

Martha Lautenbach  
 Gil Boat  
 Maurice Birdsall

Bob Klein  
 Elmer Vermeer  
 Bill Van Tuyl  
 Alice Lammers



The Chamber of Commerce and the Historical Society work together closely. Seated is Bob Van Hemert, Manager of the Chamber of Commerce. Standing left is Patsy Sadler, Director of the Historical Village and Helene Ver Meer, Office Secretary.





The 1985 Steering Committee from l to r: Dr. Mark Recker, James Marvel, Charles Beintema, Dr. Tim Lucas, Steve De Zwarte and Hilma Schakel.

## Past Historical Society Steering Committees

**1936**—Lon Wormhoudt, Hugo Kuyper, Tunis Kempkes, Dr. J.J. Sybenga, P.H. Kuyper, Dr. T.G. Fultz, B.F. Vander Linden, Arie Schilder, H.P. Van Gorp

**1937**—Gil Boat, Charlie Dykstra, Bob Klein

**1940**—Harve Van Gorp, manager of festival

**1947**—M.M. Dockendorff, Chairman, Bill Van Sittert, Bob Lautenbach, Nick Vander Ploeg, Tunis Kempkes, Mortimer Goodwin, T.G. Fultz

**1949**—W.D. Van Sittert, Joe Stientjes, Lon Wormhoudt, Bob Klein, R.C. Lautenbach, Nick Vander Ploeg

**1951**—Bob Klein, Bill Van Sittert, Joe Stientjes, Jack Boatsma, B.F. Vander Linden, Lee Vriezelaar, A.F. Tysseling

**1952**—Bob Klein, Bill Van Sittert, Henry Vande Voort, Ralph De Cook, B.F. Vander Linden, Mart Heerema, Stu Kuyper, Tunis Kempkes, A.F. Tysseling, Bob Lautenbach, Warner Vande Voort, Gil Boat, P.H. Kuyper

**1953**—Bill Van Sittert, Cornie Van Roekel, B.F. Vander Linden, Tunis Kempkes, Bob Lautenbach, Gene Stientjes

**1954**—W.D. Van Sittert, Earl Pohlman, B.F. Vander Linden, Tunis Kempkes, Gene Stientjes

**1962**—Wm. Van Sittert, Roy De Wild, Arie Boot, Tunis Kempkes, Bob Klein and Don Toom

**1971**—Bob Klein, Bob Power, Paul Farver

**1973 & 1974**—Dave Sutphen, Bruce Heerema, Al De Wild

**1975**—Dave Sutphen, Bruce Heerema, Al De Wild, Bob Wegter, Merlyn Vander Leest, Gary Van Vark

**1977**—Dave Sutphen, Al De Wild, Gary Van Vark, Bob Wegter, Merlyn Vander Leest, John Harmeling

**1978**—Gary Van Vark became Chairman. Members were: Bob Wegter, Merlyn Vander Leest, John Harmeling, Randy Rumery, Ken Uitermarkt.

**1979**—Bob Wegter assumed chair position on above committee, Hilma Schakel was the new member.

**1980**—Chairman was Merlyn Vander Leest with Steve De Zwarte joining the committee as new member.

**1981**—Vander Leest retired and John Harmeling was chairman. Tim Lucas was added as a member.

**1982**—Steering was headed by Ken Uitermarkt with Chuck Beintema as new member.

**1983**—Randy Rumery took over leadership and Jim Marvel was added.

**1984**—Hilma Schakel became chairman and new member was Mark Recker.

**1985**—Headed by Steve De Zwarte. Members are Chuck Beintema, Mark Recker, Jim Marvel, Tim Lucas and Hilma Schakel.



The Fiftieth Tulip Time Committee planned a variety of special projects for the 1985 festival. They are, seated l to r: Jeannette Vermeer, Carol Verhey, Barbara Dieleman, Lee Zylstra, Sandy Heerema. Standing, l to r: Jim Marvel, Randy Rumery, Herb Lienenbrugger, Rich Glendening and Ken Uitermarkt. Not pictured, Henry Vande Kieft.



---

---

# **Tulip Time began in simplicity**

The inspiration of people  
in the mid-1930's  
led to half-a-century  
of pageantry, festivity,  
and the traditional ethic  
of hard work to make  
Tulip Time succeed.

The spirit of Tulip Time  
encompassed the town  
in a fervency of  
group participation.

We became united in efforts  
to not only enjoy  
Dutch heritage ourselves  
but to share it with others.

Our multi-ethnic backgrounds  
merge in the month of May  
and we all 'think Dutch'.

Those with whom we share  
swell into throngs of thousands  
enjoying our festivals.

We preserve our treasures of vintage,  
delve into the unknown to  
learn even more of our homeland.  
The conglomerate of ideas, tastes  
and beauties delights us.

The best Tulip Times are always  
those that lie ahead.

MK







